

hour later. He was a lion in the water environmental movement over the last three decades," King Moon added.

Graff was born Jan. 20, 1944, in Honduras to German Jews who had fled Nazi Germany. He grew up in Syracuse, N.Y., and later attended Harvard College, Harvard Law School and the London School of Economics.

At the Environmental Defense Fund, he was a champion of the idea of using market forces to improve the environment by pushing for water marketing in California, and for plans to cap-and-trade sulfur dioxide emissions in the eastern states to combat acid rain. "He was a great listener," recalled Spreck Rosekrans, a water policy analyst at the organization. "He always got along with people."

He was also a driving force behind the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, the 1992 law that reworked one of California's biggest water projects and perhaps the most important piece of environmental legislation in the career of Rep. George Miller, D-Marinez.

"One of Tom's great insights was in advocating for, and helping to develop, the water-marketing agreements that helped bring the business world and the urban water community on board," Miller said last year in a speech to Congress.

Graff was a leader in the political fights against construction of a Peripheral Canal around the Delta. When the Sierra Club was debating whether to accept a compromise that would allow the canal to be built, Graff argued that the canal would allow San Joaquin Valley farmers and Southern California to take too much water out of the estuary. He sued the East Bay Municipal Utility District to block plans to tap into the American River, starting a 17-year legal battle over the health of the river and the Oakland-based district's contract rights to water. The utility eventually gave up its plans to build an intake on the American River and reached an agreement with environmentalists and Sacramento interests to move the intake downstream to the Sacramento River.

Graff is survived by his wife, Sharona Barzilay, the assistant head at the College Preparatory School of Oakland; sister Claudia Bial of Fort Lee, N.J.; daughter Samantha, son-in-law Miguel Helft, and grandchildren Avi and Rafael Helft of Oakland; son Benjamin of San Jose; and daughter Rebecca of Cambridge, Mass.

A private memorial is scheduled this weekend. A public service will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF SAM HOUSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Sam Houston Elementary School in the Oak Lawn neighborhood of northern Dallas.

On December 6, 1909, the Oak Lawn School opened its doors to roughly 200 students under the leadership of Principal Mary Spears. The school included eight classrooms, five of which were used for academic purposes, and was located near the corner of Throckmorton Street and Dickason Avenue. Within a year, a petition was filed with the Texas Board of Education to begin a kinder-

garten program in the unused rooms of the school, and in March 1910 the first free kindergarten under the control of the Dallas School Board opened with an attendance of 25 students. Shortly thereafter, the Oak Lawn School changed its name to the Sam Houston School in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto.

Today, Sam Houston Elementary School stands as the oldest school in the Dallas Independent School District to continue to operate in its original building. For 100 years, the faculty and staff of this institution have educated young people in North Texas to become responsible and productive members of society. Through their hard work, Sam Houston Elementary has developed a legacy of excellence, and I am so proud to have this school within my District in Texas.

Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in celebrating the success of this institution's century of existence and to recognize the faculty and staff's hard work and continued determination to ensure a quality education for children in north Texas.

HONORING JONATHAN ROBERT HUBBS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jonathan Robert Hubbs, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 900, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jonathan has been very active with his troop participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Jonathan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jonathan Robert Hubbs for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING SUTTER LAKESIDE HOSPITAL OF LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sutter Lakeside Hospital of Lake County, California. On November 19th, 2009, Sutter Lakeside will be hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for their new Mobile Health Services Unit.

The Mobile Health Services Unit project began over 2 years ago. Twenty percent of Lake County's residents and 31 percent of its children are living below the poverty line. This fact, combined with the county's rural nature, means an unacceptably high number of residents have no access to basic health care

services. The Mobile Health Services Unit will ensure that these underserved populations receive the care they need, where they need it.

The entire Mobile Health Services Unit team at Sutter Lakeside deserves our thanks for their efforts in making this project a reality. In particular, a debt of gratitude is owed to Charlie Melo, owner of American Custom Coach, who provided the expertise and leadership that made this all possible. He was also so kind as to donate the unit's solar panels.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor Sutter Lakeside Hospital and thank them for their contributions to the citizens of Lake County. The new Mobile Health Services Unit is an invaluable addition to the community and all involved in making this happen are to be commended for their efforts.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF BILL BOYD

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and memory of my friend, Bill Boyd. Enclosed they may read a profile piece in the Dallas Morning News featuring Bill's distinguished life of service, love of Texas, and devotion to family.

[From the Dallas Morning News, Aug. 31, 2009]

WILLIAM M. "BILL" BOYD: STORIED DALLAS ATTORNEY DEFENDED TEX WATSON, POLICE CHIEF

(By Rudolph Bush)

William M. "Bill" Boyd, 71, a storied attorney who gave up a career in politics to build up a successful McKinney law firm founded by his father, died Saturday of heart failure. Mr. Boyd of Dallas was well known in Texas' political and legal circles for his sharp mind, constant optimism and kindness. His career spanned five decades and countless cases.

A 1963 graduate of Southern Methodist University Law School, he was elected Collin County district attorney in 1964, before he had even passed the bar. As the son of attorney Roland Boyd—a close adviser to House Speaker Sam Rayburn and a friend of President Lyndon Johnson—Mr. Boyd might easily have built his early success into a lifelong political vocation, friends said.

"He would have done well in politics, but he loved the law. He loved legal practice," said Kent Hance, chancellor of Texas Tech University and a former U.S. representative. Mr. Boyd served four years as district attorney before returning to Boyd Veigel, where he practiced until his death.

From the earliest years of his career, Mr. Boyd was involved in high-profile cases. When Manson family member Charles "Tex" Watson was arrested in connection with the murders of actress Sharon Tate and others, Mr. Boyd fought his extradition from Texas to California all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"He did everything he could to keep him over here because Watson had already been convicted in the papers over there. He didn't feel like Watson could get a fair trial," said John Stooksberry, a longtime partner of Mr. Boyd.

Though ultimately unsuccessful at blocking Watson's extradition, Mr. Boyd did see

many legal victories. In 1991, he successfully defended former Dallas Police Chief Mack Vines against a perjury charge, calling a slew of witnesses, including former U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese, to the stand.

At the time of his death, Mr. Boyd was leading a long-standing lawsuit pitting Dallas police officers and firefighters against the city in a dispute over back pay. Elements of that case, which could involve hundreds of millions of dollars in potential damages, are now before the state Supreme Court.

Mr. Boyd's wife, Barbara White Boyd, recalled her husband's passion for the law and for politics as grounded in a keen intelligence and attention to detail.

"He always managed to put things in such an eloquent and kind way, even when he was critical. He was the most open and honest person," she said.

He was loyal, too. In conservative Collin County, he never wavered from his commitment to Democratic politics.

"After I changed parties in the '80s, he told me, 'I still love you even though you're a Republican.'" Mr. Hance said. "He had friends on both sides, and he never took his politics so personal it affected his friendship with anyone."

Mr. Boyd's mark on law in Collin County is clear from a visit to the county courthouse, where he has placed two works of art, a sculpture of Alamo hero William Barret Travis and a portrait print of decorated World War II soldier Audie Murphy.

Mr. Boyd had said the sculpture of Travis represented what he believed in when it came to the law.

"It stands for courage, and that's what you need in a lawyer. You need someone that will stand up against the state, against powerful forces that you may be, as an individual, up against," he said.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Boyd's survivors include his sons, William Bradley Boyd of New Orleans and Blake Edward Boyd of Los Angeles; his sister, Betty Skelton of Houston; and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Betty Boyd.

His body will lie in repose from 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday at Turrentine Jackson Morrow Funeral Home, 2525 N. Central Expressway in Allen. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church of McKinney, 1615 W. Louisiana St. Burial at Lake View Cemetery in Lavon will follow.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY POLICE DIRECTOR ROBERT PARKER

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Police Director Robert Parker from the Miami-Dade County Police Department.

Director Parker has 33 years of distinguished service for the eighth largest police department in the country and for the last five years Mr. Parker has served as Director of the force, overseeing more than 4,700 dedicated sworn and non-sworn personnel.

Director Parker joined the Miami-Dade Police Department in 1976 where he was quickly promoted through all the civil service ranks. He has diverse experience in police manage-

ment and operations, including posts as Assistant Director of Police Services, Division Chief of the North Operations Division and the Special Investigations Division, and Police Bureau Commander. In 2004, he made history when he was appointed as the first African American Director of Police for Miami-Dade County.

Known as a gifted leader in his community and in the Department, Director Parker was appointed by the Governor of Florida to serve as Co-Chair of the Southeast Regional Domestic Security Task Force. He also served as President of the Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police from 2006–2007, presiding over more than 35 municipal police departments as well as other state and federal law enforcement member agencies.

With Director Parker at the helm, the Department became known nationally as a leader in law enforcement. The Miami-Dade County Police Department holds accreditation from two agencies, the Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), and the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA), documenting its commitment to the highest level of service.

I am proud today to honor Director Parker's distinguished career and leadership in the South Florida community and wish him and his family well on their future endeavors.

U.S. SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievement of U.S. Senator ROBERT C. BYRD on becoming the longest serving Member in the history of the United States Congress.

Senator ROBERT C. BYRD has made a career of setting the standard for his fellow Members of Congress to emulate and today, he has, again, set the bar of Congressional service one notch higher.

This is a history-making day. But Senator BYRD's record-setting achievement is not gauged best by the number of years, days, and hours he has spent in office—though he could tell us to the minute. It is, instead, more correctly measured by the wealth of hope his work has generated, the vast number of lives his efforts have touched and improved, and the multiple generations of citizens his struggles from virtual orphan to the heights of political power have inspired.

His work, in short, has been monumental. His efforts have provided for public services and fundamental structures—modern highways, safer bridges, veterans centers, clean water systems—but these fall far short of the greatest and most lasting monument that he has given the people of West Virginia, his devotion and tireless work to make their lives richer.

I am proud and awed—though not in the least surprised—to be able to congratulate West Virginia's senior Senator on becoming the longest serving Member in the history of the U.S. Congress. And I look forward to many more record-breaking years of ROBERT C. BYRD serving in the U.S. Senate and setting a wise and fruitful course for the future of West Virginia and the Nation.

HONORING VINCENT PAUL WHITAKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Vincent Paul Whitaker, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 900, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Vincent has been very active with his troop participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Vincent has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Vincent Paul Whitaker for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 85TH BIRTHDAY OF ROSEMARY MCCANN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor an outstanding American and a great public servant who will celebrate her 85th birthday on November 20, 2009. Rosemary McCann has served her country with an unyielding sense of determination, and she has cared well for so many people through her distinguished and long career as a nurse.

After raising two exceptional children, Rosemary's caring nature led her to begin a career in nursing. She served for more than a decade as the occupational health nurse in Tiffany & Company's medical department. During her tenure, she served approximately 900 employees and provided emergency care and follow-up for the injured. She also helped to implement important safety and health education programs, which no doubt prevented future injuries from occurring on the job.

After her time at Tiffany & Company, Rosemary's desire to serve her country guided her to become the medical officer aboard the USNS *Silas Bent* and later with the U.S. Merchant Marine. During her service, she cared for sick or injured crewmembers and technicians on world-wide voyages, from the North Atlantic to the Indian Ocean. She also maintained the on-board medical inventory, oversaw food sanitation, and ensured that sailors had potable water to drink.

Her humor and compassion were a comfort to sailors away from home and she made sure that they stayed in contact with their families while at sea. Early one May, as Mother's Day was approaching, bad weather kept the USNS *Silas Bent* away from port. Always an expert at handling emergency situations, Rosemary passed out her supply of handmade cards to sailors to send home to their mothers. The cards made it home just in time.

Today, well past the customary age of retirement, Rosemary continues to touch people's lives as a relief nurse for numerous